**Anthropology 5312:** ***Norms, Networks, and Repertoires: The Anthropology of Institutions***

John Bowen, Fall 2018 Tuesdays, 1-4:00, McMillan 312

[jbowen@wustl.edu](mailto:jbowen@wustl.edu)

We live our lives in social institutions, from those that are formally organized, such as schools, courts, and hospitals, to those that do not have a fixed organizational structure, such as language or norms of exchange. We may think of social institutions as complex social forms that reproduce and transform themselves. Each is shaped by norms or rules, but people do not simply “follow rules”: they develop strategies, draw on cultural repertoires and schemas for action, and form social networks.

Anthropologists and sociologists (and others in related fields) study institutions through ethnography, the close study of everyday interactions, albeit also incorporating approaches from politics and economics, and they do so influenced by the traditions of social pragmatism. We explore the theoretical and empirical dimensions of an ethnographic and pragmatist approach, as applied to schools, courtrooms, science laboratories, art, and other institutions.

The course is about closely reading and discussing certain texts. Therefore, the main requirement is that you read all the materials prior to class, and come ready to discuss them. To encourage this practice, on each week beginning with Week 2, you will post on a discussion thread your thoughts and questions regarding the week’s readings. You will do this by 2 PM on the Monday before class. Posting is done by starting a thread on the Forum for that week in Blackboard: first one there, start a thread using the class meeting date as the Name. In addition, pairs of students will lead class discussion in each session, and their joint posting will contain a more extensive list of questions and points for discussion. During the course, you will each make an informal presentation of how your work can draw from this literature. There is no other work required.

The articles are posted on the Blackboard site under “shared files”.

***Aug 28, Introduction: Theories of society and the individual***

***Sept. 4,*** ***Pragmatism and sociology***

Dewey, John. 1924. “Logical Method and the Law”, *Cornell Law Quarterly* 10:17-27

Goffman, Erving. 1983. “The Interaction Order”, *American Sociological Review* 48: 1-17

***Sept 11, Meaningful interactions***

Garfinkel, Harold. 1964. “Studies of the Routine Grounds of Everyday Activities”,

*Social Problems* 11 (3): 225-50

Cicourel Aaron V, 1987. “The interpenetration of communicative contexts: Examples from

medical encounters”, *Social Psychology Quarterly* 50 (2): 217-26.

***Sept 18, Communication and linguistics***

Charles S. Peirce, “How to Make Our Ideas Clear”, *Popular Science Monthly* 12 (January 1878),

286-302.

Alessandro Duranti. 2012. Anthropology and Linguistics. In *ASA Handbook of Social*

*Anthropology*, ed. Richard Fandon, O. Harris, T. H.J. Marchand, M. Nuttall, C. Shore,

V. Strang, and R.A. Wilson. Los Angeles & London: Sage, pp. 12-23.

Susan Ervin-Tripp, “On Sociolinguistic Rules: Alternation and co-occurrence,” in John J.

Gumperz and Dell Hymes, eds., Directions in Sociolinguistics: The Ethnography of

Communication, pp. 213-250. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1972.

***Sept 25, Foucault on governance***

Foucault, Michel. 2007 [1977-78]. Lectures 1-3 in *Security, Territory, Population*.

New York: Palgrave [or see original French, Seuil/ Gallimard]

Sverre Raffnsøe, Marius Gudmand-Høyer, Morten S. Thaning, “What is a dispositive?

Foucault’s historical mappings of the networks of social reality”, ms in Open Archive,

<http://hdl.handle.net/10398/9077>, 2014

***Oct 2, Bourdieu on the state***

Bourdieu, Pierre. 2014 [1989-1992]. Lectures 18 Jan and 25 Jan 1990 in *On the State*.

Cambridge (UK): Polity Press [or see original French, Seuil]

Lamont, Michèle. 2012. “How Has Bourdieu Been Good to Think With? The Case of the

United States, *Sociological Forum*, 27 (1): 228-237

***Oct 16, Repertoires and boundaries***

Lamont, Michèle. 1992. *Money, Morals, and Manners: The Culture of the French and American*

*Upper-Middle Class*. Prologue, chs. 1-2. Chicago: University of Chicago Press

Meyer, John W., and Brian Rowan, 1977. “Institutionalized organizations: Formal structure as

Myth and ceremony,” American Journal of Sociology, 83:340–63

Boltanski, Luc, and Laurent Thévenot. 1999. “The Sociology of critical capacity,” European

Journal of Social Theory 2 (3): 359-377.

Bertossi, Christophe, and John R. Bowen. 2014. “Practical Schemas, Conjunctures, and Social

Locations: *Laïcité* in French Hospitals and Schools”, in John R. Bowen, Christophe Bertossi,

Jan Willem Duyvendak, and Mona Lena Krook, eds., *European States and Their Muslim*

*Citizens*, pp. 104-131. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

***Oct 23, Performativity***

Hervé Dumez, Alain Jeunemaitre, « Michel Callon, Michel Foucault and the “ dispositif ”:

When economics fails to be performative: A case study”, *Le Libellio d’Aegis*, 2010, 6 (4),

pp.27-37. <hal-00546736>

John R. Bowen, “Performativity and materiality in halal certification”, ms., May 2018

Judith Butler, “Performative Acts and Gender Constitution: An Essay in Phenomenology and

Feminist Theory”, *Theatre Journal*, Vol. 40, No. 4 (Dec., 1988), pp. 519-531

***Oct 30, Laboratories***

Latour, Bruno, and Steve Woolgar. 1986. *Laboratory Life: The Construction of Scientific Facts.*

Princeton: Princeton University Press

***Nov 13, Objects***

Bruno Latour, “Do Scientific Objects Have a History? Pasteur and Whitehead in a Bath of

Lactic Acid, *Common Knowledge*, Spring 1996, pp. 76-91.

Annemarie Mol and John Law, “Regions, Networks and Fluids: Anaemia and Social Topology”,

*Social Studies of Science*, Vol. 24, No. 4 (Nov 1994), pp. 641-671

Bruno Latour, “A well-articulated primatology, Reflexions of a fellow-traveler”, In Shirley

Strum and Linda Fedigan (eds), *Primate Encounters*, pp. 358-381. University of Chicago

Press, 2000

***Nov 20, Economic valuation***

Velthuis, Olav. 2005. Introduction, chs. 1, 7, in *Talking Prices*. Princeton: Princeton University

Press

Fourcade, Marion. 2011. “Cents and Sensibility: Economic Valuation and the Nature of

“Nature,” *American Journal of Sociology*, 116:1721–77

***Nov 27, Finance***

Stark, David, *The Sense of Dissonance: Accounts of Worth in Economic Life*. Princeton:

Princeton University Press, 2009

***Dec 4,***

Students’ research reports.